foaming bottles, and ale-washed wits, is wonderful to be thought on! but you must learn to know such slanders of the age[4], or else you may be marvellous mistook.

FLU. I tell you what, captain Gower;—I do perceive, he is not the man that he would gladly

" That it is very hard
" To treat of the beard
" Though it be ne'er so long.
#
"The *steeletto* beard
" O, it makes me afeard
** It is so sharp beneath;
" For he that doth place
" A dagger in his face
" What wears he in his sheath
%
" The *soldiers* beard
" Doth match in this herd,
" In figure like a *spade*:
" With which he will make
" His enemies quake
" To think their grave is made,

** Next the *cloton* doth outrush,
" With the beard of the bush,"
&c. MALONE.

3 — a horrid SUIT of the camp,] Thus the folio. The quartos 1600, *Sac.* read—*[f] a horrid *shout* of the camp/' STEEVENS.

Suit. I have no doubt is the true reading. Soldiers *shout* in a *field of battle*, but not in a *camp*. *Suit* in our author's time appears to have been pronounced *shoot*. (See vol. iv. p. 348, n. 1.) hence probably the corrupt reading of the quarto. MALONE.

4 — such slanders of the age,] This was a character very troublesome to wise men in our author's time. "It is the practice with him (says Ascham) to be warlike, though he never looked enemy in the face: yet some warlike sign must be used, as a slovenly buskin, or an over-staring frowned head, as though out of every hair's top should suddenly start a good big oath." JOHNSON.

Pistol's character seems to have been formed on that of Basi-

lisco, a cowardly braggart in Solyman and Persida, which was performed before 1591^ A *basilisk* is the name of a great gun.

MAIONB.